



PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 7.

In the Senate to-day, a bill to relieve insolvent savings banks from tax was passed by a close vote. Mr. Blaine spoke on the silver bill—"straddling the sapling," and favoring both gold and silver. Mr. B. was followed by Mr. Sausbury in opposition to the bill.

To the House of Representatives the California contested election case of Wigginton against Paebeco was further discussed, and P. G. Wigginton admitted by a close and almost strictly party vote.

A telegram from Rome at three o'clock this afternoon announced the Pope's death. A later dispatch, one dated five o'clock, says that though in extremis, he was still alive. The Pope asked before Victor Emmanuel died what would happen if the Quirinal and Vatican should both become vacant. The peaceful accession of King Humbert has answered the first part of his question, and the Conclave of Cardinals, that has been called, will soon answer the second. John Mary Mastai Ferretti was born in 1792, and was made Pope in 1846. When he assumed the tiara his temporality included the greater part of Italy—his successor's will be restricted to the limits of the Vatican.

During a debate in the House of Representatives, Tuesday, on a resolution to help starving Chinese, Mr. Wright very properly remarked that while he was not opposed to helping starving humanity in any quarter of the globe, he would remind the House that there were thousands of Americans on the eve of starvation, and that something might be done for their relief. His brother members, however, don't look upon the unemployed labor of this country in the light Mr. Wright does. Indeed the average Southern Congressman, like the ancient Greeks, overlooks what is going on before his eyes in his vain pursuit of abstractions.

It is understood that upon the advice of Secretaries Sherman, McCreery, Thompson, Attorney General Devens and Postmaster General Key, the President has determined that the "practices" of appointing other than republicans to office must be stopped. Considering that under the "practices" alluded to, of all the Government's employees, not more than a dozen democrats have been appointed by the Hayes administration, the stoppage of the "practices" will not require any very great effort.

The intelligence from London and Constantinople to-day is by no means favorable to a peaceful settlement of the Eastern question.

Virginia News.

The house of E. Adams, on the outskirts of Danville was burned last Tuesday night. The news of that city says: During the excitement hundreds of people took the railroad facing the fire. About two hundred yards from the R. & D. depot is a cow-pit. As the crowd straggled on in a line of four hundred yards all bent on reaching the fire in time, the blaze dazzling their vision, they fell in a complete trap one after another, till about one dozen had become victims of misplaced steps. And hardly had one been dragged from the hole before another fell in-line till the whole party had sounded its depths. Those severest hurt were a young German named John Askew, who received a bad gash over the right eye; Willie Williamson sustained painful injuries on the right side of his face, and was rendered insensible from the concussion. Isaiah Stewart, a farmer from near Pelham, was knocked senseless, cut and bruised on the face and head in a serious manner, and was carried to the warehouse in a critical condition. Next was our pressman, Bill Thompson, who fell in, ploughing one or two cross-ties with his chin, taking out a small bit of the latter, and dislocating two fingers of the right hand, caused by grappling with the iron rails. Many others got hurt badly, but we were not able to see them or learn their names.

The Danville News says: Quite an excitement was occasioned on the streets yesterday by a difficulty between two of our popular warehousemen, in which pistols were used rather freely. Mr. P. J. Sterne, one of the proprietors of the Cabell warehouse, and John J. Wilkerson, ex-formerly doorkeeper of the Virginia House of Delegates, now connected with the Public Warehouse. Several shots were fired on both sides only one of which did any damage. The affray occurred in front of the Cabell warehouse, on Bridge street. Mr. Sterne stood in his door while Mr. Wilkerson held his ground in the street. One shot fired by Sterne passed through Wilkerson's vest and shirt, grazing the skin and then went through his coat, but did no further damage. Mr. Sterne was not hurt.

Mr. George H. Baroh, once a respected citizen of Lynchburg, who, a year or two ago, was taken up by the radicals and elected Mayor of that city as an independent, let his business go to destruction, and, in the vain effort to obtain other official positions, has lost his mind and been adjudged a lunatic.

A few days ago James Mills, of Patrick county, was found dead in the woods leaning in a standing position against a tree, with his throat cut from ear to ear, with a razor, supposed to have been in his own hands.

The residence of Col. Clement Barkdale and Gen. Bradley T. Johnson, in Richmond, were robbed last Tuesday night, the first of a seal skin cloak and jewelry, and the latter of silver plate and wearing apparel.

A man, supposed to be R. B. Brown, of Potomac county, was found dead, near Amherst Court House, yesterday.

THE SILVER DOLLAR.—Whatever else may happen on the recoinage of silver there can be no doubt it will be a fearful invasion of trade. Even now our business men find it a great drag upon their hands. It is quite a play of tactics on the part of customers to relieve their pockets of the weight of it in payment for purchases, and of dealers to relieve their cash drawers of it in making change. The banks do not take silver except as special deposit, and will not, should the silver bill pass, as the legal tender clause will not affect them. It will evidently be a depreciated currency shunned by business men, and as it will doubtless be used mainly in paying wages or small debts to poor people who cannot help themselves, the result will be not especially unfavorable to that class.—*Wash. Star.*

Foreign News.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Servia has asked Russia for admission to the Conference, with a consultative voice.

The rumor is revived that Osman Pasha will be court-martialed on the charge of ordering the execution of prisoners of war.

The Romanians did not stop hostilities around Rusehuk and Widdin until Monday afternoon. They vigorously bombarded Widdin on Sunday and Monday, and the position of the garrison was considered desperate.

The London Advertiser of today says:—"We have reason to believe that the Government has received information of the entry of the Russian army into Constantinople. At any rate, if the Government is not in possession of this news, the Russian embassy is."

The London Post says:—"The Russians are in Constantinople. This was the news last night current in London, and we incline to think it is based upon official authentic intelligence. The message has come via Alexandria. We do not know at this moment what the precise nature of the occupation is. According to some dispatches the Russians have possessed themselves of two forts in the Bay of Constantinople. According to others they have gained still greater advantages. Details are of small moment. Practically all are agreed that the capital of Turkey and the key of the East is in the hands of the Czar. Indignation will be of little avail. It will be alleged that no deception has been practiced, and we shall discover that this was one of the terms of armistice which was never communicated to us. Tuesday a British military and naval force could at any moment occupy Constantinople, while the Austrian army could cut the Russian communications. Yesterday the situation was entirely altered; the British fleet can no longer advance to Constantinople, and may find itself barred out at the Dardanelles. The Czar can now afford to laugh at Austrian menaces, since his communications are open from Constantinople to Odessa or Sebastopol. Our pottering over a trumpety six millions will probably cost us ten times that sum, but what we care the most is to be hoped that the country will see its honor vindicated. This direct attack upon our honor will raise a feeling of resentment not to be appeased until we shall have taught our foe that we have the will and power to punish chicanery and maintain the empire which he is seeking to undermine."

A report is current in Paris that the Russians already hold a post on the Dardanelles. The London Times says:—"We are not altogether confident that Prince Gortschakoff has definitely renounced the entrance of any Russian troops into Constantinople. Rumors were about Tuesday night that some such entrance had already been made. At the utmost, such occupation could be only of such a nominal character as the German entrance into Paris. There is, in short, every apparent ground for confidence in the prospect before us, and no solid reason for alarm." The London Times bases its confidence on the pacific anticipations expressed in the German Emperor's speech, and deprecates beforehand any outbreak of excitement. If Russia were to aim at a position in the East, which would damage the just interests of Austria and Germany, a word from Emperor William would at once check her.

The London Daily Telegraph says:—"According to the latest information from Constantinople, the Russian forces, despite the completion of the preliminaries for peace, are hastily pushing on to Gallipoli and Constantinople. These circumstances, serious and menacing in the extreme, will have to be considered by the Ministers in Cabinet Council to-day. The issue of their deliberations will, in all probability, be this evening communicated to Parliament."

The London Telegraph is furious in its comments on the course of Russia. A special dispatch dated Paris, midnight, says the Russian forces are constantly advancing on Gallipoli and Constantinople.

A special from Pesh announces that the Turkish men of war on the Danube have been surrendered to Russia. The Turkish men of war have already left Sulina and Varna. The Turks have agreed to evacuate Varna and the evacuation has already commenced.

Servet Pasha declares that Turkey has been misled and encouraged to fight on by the promise of English support. He particularly accused Lord Beaconsfield and Mr. Layard of encouraging that belief and said he regretted that he had now become a partisan of the Russian policy and alliance. Servet Pasha's colleagues at Adrianople confirmed his statement.

The report of the capture of Democia is false. There has been no collision yet between the Turks and Greeks. The citizens and peasantry are arming to protect Athens.

A dispatch from Athens, dated Wednesday evening, says:—"The foreign representatives have assured the Government that the Hellespontine Provinces of Turkey would be protected and the Greek question submitted to the approaching conference, the Government has ordered the stoppage of the advance of the army across the frontier. Warlike preparations, however, continue."

In consequence of the representations of the Powers Greece seems disposed to stop the further advance of her troops, referring the question of their withdrawal to the decision of the Conference. She also demands that existing Greek hostilities against the insurgents in Crete be suspended.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—10 a. m.—The source of the reports of the Russian occupation of Constantinople does not appear in the several paragraphs published, but from the manner in which the statement is made it seems probable that it came through official channels.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—11 30 p. m.—No confirmation has been received at the Russian or Turkish Embassies of the reported Russian occupation of Constantinople. Count Schouvaloff the Russian Ambassador declares that he does not believe it.

The London Daily Chronicle states that the British Government and Russian Embassy have both received information that the Russians have entered Constantinople, but the Daily Chronicle is not good authority. The same paper also states that a telegram from Bucharest received in London says:—"In addition to the transfer of the men of war on the Danube Russia is negotiating for the acquisition of the entire Turkish ironclad fleet. Count Schouvaloff heard of the rumor of the occupation of Constantinople at a ball at the German Embassy last night. He immediately telegraphed to St. Petersburg inquiring whether it was true. His dispatch has not been answered yet. The Count thinks that the report has arisen from some arrangement between the Russians and Turks by which the Russian troops might approach nearer to Constantinople than they were at the signature of the armistice."

Musurus Pasha, the Turkish Ambassador, at London, received telegrams from Constantinople this morning (their date is not mentioned) but he knows nothing about the reported occupation.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—12 45 p. m.—Consols dropped this morning in consequence of a rumor that the British fleet had been ordered to Constantinople. This rumor is probably a mere guess based on this morning's announcements of a Russian occupation of Constantinople. Consols are recovering rapidly and are now quoted at 95½. Russian bonds are two per cent. lower than they were at the close of the market yesterday.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—3 p. m.—A Cabinet Council which convened at eleven o'clock this morning is still in session.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Central News says:—"In consequence of the grave intelligence from Mr. Layard, the British Ambassador at Constantinople, we believe Lord Harrington will announce the withdrawal of Mr. Foster's amem-

ment and the supplementary vote will be unanimously agreed."

The London Central News also says:—"That it is able to state that a telegram has been received from Mr. Layard expressing the gravest uneasiness at his isolation by the cutting of all telegraph wires and by information reaching him that by agreement with the Porte the Russians are close to the city and about to enter and also take up a position near Gallipoli. Mr. Layard's communication reached the Government by way of Alexandria. Later information states that Mr. Layard's telegram was two days in transmission. It further says that the Russians have taken possession of a fort on the line of fortification between Bayik, Chokmejos and Chatselja and that another detachment had occupied points of the Roumlin lines."

LONDON, Feb. 7.—4 p. m.—The Cabinet meeting which is now in session was very suddenly called. The Lord Chancellor was summoned while engaged on a case in the House of Lords, the hearing of which was immediately suspended.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Globe in its issue this p. m., says:—"We understand that although the announcement this morning that the Russian army had entered Constantinople, is up to the latest advices untrue, the Russian columns are actually advancing rapidly upon the Turkish capital and Gallipoli."

It has been known in diplomatic circles some days that the Russians are still advancing, but it is regarded as almost impossible that they can yet be in possession of Constantinople. We are enabled to state that no official information of the report has yet reached the foreign office.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Standard, in its third edition, has a Constantinople dispatch which says:—"According to the terms of the armistice the Turks are to evacuate the lines of Constantinople."

The Russian limit is to Bayuk Chokmejos and the Turkish limit Kupuk Chokmejos.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Cuban insurgent Colonel Benjamine Ramirez, with 15 officers, 103 men, 79 women and 108 children have surrendered in the neighborhood of Bayamo.

Lieutenant Wyse, Chief of the Darien Canal Expedition, has arrived at Panama from the head waters of the Tuira. He reports that the expedition is in excellent health and satisfactory progress is being made.

A party of 250 Costa Ricans, under Francisco Mora, nephew of a former President of Costa Rica, invaded Graytown on the 11th inst., and seized and carried away 500 stand of arms. This party is opposed to Gen. Guardia's Government, and will endeavor to overthrow it. They seized one of the steamboats on the San Juan river and started for the interior, intending to land on Costa Rican territory and proclaim a revolution. It is believed that the threatened war between Guatemala and Costa Rica will be averted.

Bag-Bek-Beg, the Emir of Kashgar, has arrived at Tashkend. He admits his inability to oppose the Chinese. The Russian frontier is crowded with Kashgarian refugees, who say the Chinese are perpetrating frightful atrocities in Kashgar. All the towns formerly held by Yakob-Beg have submitted to the Chinese, and the Khanate of Kashgar has ceased to exist.

The policy of the Provincial Government on certain questions, particularly that of railways, being unpopular to a portion of the community, some six thousand of the people of St. Roch, suburbs of Quebec, assembled at Jacques Cartier market, yesterday evening and marched to the Parliament building, headed by a band of music. Their arrival caused a slight scene in the House. Members of the Government police guarded the doors, to prevent the crowd entering the building. A hundred men of B. Battery appeared on the scene, and are now on guard. Twenty mounted Hussars paraded the city, but at 10 o'clock the crowd dispersed and all was quiet. The citizens without distinction on condemn the action of the mob.

The Pope in Extremis.

ROME, Feb. 7.—The condition of the Pope changed seriously for the worse during the night, and His Holiness has already received the last sacraments. The Cardinal Vicar has been summoned to the Vatican, and an order has been given to prevent any person, not specially authorized, from having access to the Pope's apartments. Egress from the Vatican is also prohibited. The foreign Cardinals have been summoned by telegraph to Rome. Prayers for the Pope's recovery are being offered in all the churches in Rome.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Pall Mall Gazette's Rome dispatch reports that the Pope's death is hourly expected, and that reports are current that he is already dead.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—4 30 p. m.—This afternoon's Pall Mall Gazette has the following special dispatch:—

ROME, Feb. 7.—12 50 p. m.—The Pope's death is hourly expected. All the necessary arrangements, in view of the event, have been made. Reports are current that His Holiness is already dead."

ROME, Feb. 7.—1 10 p. m.—The Pope has passed into death agony. His death is momentarily expected.

ROME, Feb. 7.—The Pope died at three o'clock p. m.

ROME, Feb. 7.—A conclave of Cardinals will be called immediately.

LATER.

ROME, Feb. 7.—5 p. m.—It is impossible to obtain the act news regarding the Pope's condition. He is dying, but not dead.

Letter from Falls Church.

FALLS CHURCH, Feb. 6, 1878.—Man proposes but the parsons disposed of us this time. The Washington Association of Congregational ministers—consisting of Messrs. Rankin, Holmes, Chickering, Platt and others—leaving the Jefferson Institute for a ministers' meeting this evening, thus cutting off the lecture promised by Rev. R. Smithson. Providence came to our rescue again and we had instead the pleasure of a humorous lecture last evening from Dr. Wm. Grinstead, of Washington, D. C., on "some uncommon common people I have seen." Grinstead is a good surgeon, and quite a humorist, and if he could only keep his patients in as good humor while undergoing operations as his audience last evening, he would rob his profession of half its terrors. Mr. Smithson's lecture is announced for Wednesday, 13th inst; subject, "The Mind"—Bishop Riddle will let us know his opinion of Macaulay on the 20th, and Rev. L. B. Platt will tell us something on the 6th of March of his experiences among the aboriginal nomads of the West.

The lectures are preceded by music from our musical folks, and they deserve great credit for the efforts they take to make their selections and execution agreeable.

For rational amusement combined with pleasurable information we pride ourselves on having facilities unequalled by any other town of our size in the State.

The town subscription to the W. C. & St. Louis R. R. having been made, the active interest in the prospects of the road is reviving again, and efforts are being made to swell the list of private subscriptions and secure right of way for the road. Should the weather permit the contractors promise to commence opera-

tions shortly, and by early summer to give us an additional communication with the capital. We have some opinions on the silver question and our congressional nominations, but you are so pressed with opinions from other quarters, we will withhold ours for the present.

News of the Day.

The trial of Frank Rand, alias Chas. S. Scott, famous as the murderer of seven persons in six months, began at Galesburg, Knox county, Ill., yesterday. It will be remembered that he killed the first officer who tried to arrest him, after a desperate struggle in a St. Louis pawn shop. He is to be tried at Galesburg for the murder of a man who was pursuing him after he had committed a robbery in Gibson, Knox county. Should he escape conviction he will probably be taken to Fayette county to be tried for one of several similar murders committed at St. Elmo. His air of bravado and the number of his crimes have won him the distinction of the "blue ribbon murderer."

About one o'clock, yesterday morning, officer Reestemeyer, while on duty near the Mississippi and Tennessee depot, in Memphis, heard a shot fired in a shanty near by and the screams of a woman. Running towards the house the officer met Bob King, a notorious negro, running fast, and ordered him to halt. King instantly fired, the ball striking the officer in the jaw, inflicting a fatal wound. It was afterwards ascertained that King had shot and fatally wounded Laura Burnish, colored, and was fleeing when met by the officer. So far he has escaped arrest.

In the trial of Gen. Anderson, of the Louisiana returning board, at New Orleans, yesterday, Mr. H. C. Castellanos argued for the defense, and held that the crime charged had not been established; that the consolidated statement of election returns offered in evidence was not a public record, not being certified by the clerk of the District Court. Argument was closed by Attorney General Ogden. Judge Whitaker will give his charge to the jury to-day. Ex Gov. Wells is still in jail, although his bond has been reduced to \$10,000.

Miss Olivia Sophia Major was the name of the young lady who died from the effects of malpractice, in Washington, last Tuesday, and Dr. Woodruff was the physician who who charged with the offense, and who has fled.

In the U. S. House of Representatives, yesterday, the Committee on Navy Affairs, reported favorably on the bill for the chief of the Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal Company.

A defalcation of \$100,000 by one of the tellers of the Bank of North America, in New York city, was discovered yesterday. The defalcation has extended over a number of years.

Rev. Dr. Seymour's election to the bench of bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church, has been sanctioned by a majority of the standing diocesan committees.

Abraham G. Smith, one of the proprietors of the Metropolitan Hotel, in Washington, died suddenly, yesterday morning, from an overdose of laudanum, which he had taken for a cold.

Louisiana Returning Board.

NEW YORK Feb. 7.—A special from New Orleans says in a private interview to-day, Wells disclosed his intended action relative to his trial. If it is carried out the whole matter of the Packard government and the legality of their count of the electoral votes will be brought into Court and the Supreme Judges of the United States compelled to decide on the matter. He said it was his intention to object to the jurisdiction of the State Court on the constitutional ground that the federal government guaranteed every State a government republican in form; that the Hayes electors chosen under the State law by the returning board were recognized by the Electoral Commission. The Senator chosen by the legislature, declared elected by the same returning board, was seated by the United States Senate but the State government declared elected by the same legal authority has been suppressed by revolution, and that the government or persons now trying him never had any existence as a government nor as legal officials, and on these grounds will ask that the parties prosecuting him will be enjoined and he will appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States. If the court decides these persons are the legal authorities then the legislature which elected Kellogg and the electors who elected Hayes, were fraudulent and had no standing. This has yet been given out to no one, and it is well expected to surprise the President and cause Kellogg and others who are now lukewarm to come to his assistance. Littlefield, whose arrival has already been announced, will, it is alleged by republicans go back on his testimony. Even if he does not, they expect to prove he testified in Washington expecting to be well taken care of which, however, was never done. The Anderson jury, it is confidently predicted, will convict or else there will be ten for conviction and two against. The republicans are rather gloomy over the prospect and the democrats jubilant.

The mooted subject of a constitutional Convention, to be called by the Legislature will be up next week; though it is not believed it will have a large number of democratic supporters and most republicans are opposed to such a measure as it might injure the State credit.

The Moffett bill will also pass and indeed everything will be done to sustain the credit of the State.

The Wrecked Metropolis.

After the mainmast had gone by the board the whole side of the ship fell out, up to twenty feet forward of the boiler. I came forward on the hurricane-deck, between the stack and boiler house, and saw Alexander Barclay and his son hanging on to the forward rigging, and when I asked me to land him to a board, as it was madness to remain on the sinking vessel, he turned to me and said: "Papa has no board landed to him, and I don't want to get ashore unless papa does." He would not allow me to assist him. Shortly afterwards the father, with the boy in his arms, jumped overboard, and both were drowned. When the vessel struck the shore, Capt. Or-fear Dickson said that he would not order a hundred souls to perish, and asked permission from Captain Ankers to take a line ashore. The second mate said he could not make it. Dickman replied, I can try. You can't live, said the second mate. Well, if I don't live, I will have done my duty. I must obey the orders of my superior officers, but I can't stay here and see these people drowned. Mr. Cezzena, the second mate, carried the ladies from the cabin to the deck on his back. Mrs. Myers, struck by a wave, was lying almost senseless on the deck, with a life preserver around her. I saw one of the passengers leaning over her and trying to take the preserver from her. I told him to stop, but he said: Every man for himself. I snatched my revolver at him four times, but the caps were damp and would not explode. Finding he did not desert, I struck him with my fist and almost knocked him overboard. Mrs. Myers was shortly afterwards drowned, and her husband, knowing of her death, slipped through his life preserver, and I am positive, held his head under the water, while with one hand he held on to the rail. One man swam ashore with a Free Mason's badge between his teeth. The raft was a gift from Mrs. W. O. Harrison (formerly Helen F. Snyder) was washed forward almost senseless. She was the last victim among the cabin passengers, as her brains were shortly afterwards dashed out when the third mate struck the vessel.—*Survivor's account in the Phil. Times.*

One of the survivors of the Metropolis says he saw the line cast by the life saving crew over the vessel before she was a wreck, by means of the mortar, deliberately cut with a knife by a man, who was afterwards drowned. This act was done to prevent any one else from trying to get ashore on the line before himself. The investigation ordered by Inspector Gen'l. Dumont will, it is expected, begin to-morrow at noon in Philadelphia, and the survivor who made the foregoing statement will doubtless be brought before the examiner.

Letter from Richmond.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

RICHMOND, February 6, 1878.

The McKenzie railroad case has just been taken up in the Circuit Court and the argument was begun to-day. No decision will be given for some days.

At last it seems that the members of the House have about spoken themselves out on the debt question. No more new arguments have been advanced on either side. Mr. Henry has made the best speech on his side—debt payer—and Mr. Allen has done the same on the other side of the readjusters. To-night Peter J. Carter, the colored member from Northampton, spoke against the Barbour bill. Peter is the smartest negro that ever spoke in our legislative halls and he is the only colored man I have ever known who could make a really witty speech. His sarcasm and hits are admirable, while his illustrations are all decidedly fresh. In his speech to-night Peter ridiculed the address of Mr. Ficklin, of Rockingham, delivered last night, and by his satirical hits, brought down the House more than once.

Peter said:—"I have a scheme to submit. I don't claim to be a Daniel, but I do claim that when I shall make my scheme known no gentleman will controvert it. Their necks were stretched and every body waited eagerly to hear what his scheme was. Peter then went on:—"My scheme is to increase taxes high enough to do every thing. They all will allow that this is the only practical scheme by which the obligations of Virginia can be met. I can't see right across up and grasp the bull by the horns and increase the taxes." Peter then went on to laugh at the idea that taxes could not be increased and took the ground that an increase was necessary to keep what we have. Said he: "If I had a son who was not willing to pay one dollar for the saving of the ninety-nine I would take away all he had and give it to somebody more worthy to have it." He further contended that there was much that could yet be taxed. He was for taxing the luxuries of Virginia—would make a stamp tax and impose a tax on the privilege of selling tobacco. Peter also defended Mr. Ogghill, of Amherst, against the charge of inconsistency and said that that gentleman had changed, "did not the good book say that the wise man changes, but the fool never changes."

Peter also ridiculed Mr. Ficklin for lugging in so much history and poetry into his speech, and said, "why one would suppose that the gentleman has never associated with any body but historians and poets all his life," and then laughed at the idea of Mr. Ficklin bringing into the debate "King Charles and Cromwell and the massacre of the Quakers at the Falls of the Ohio." Last mentioned scoldingly Mr. Ficklin turned pale, and though the rest of the house roared he never smiled again that evening, unless, indeed, it was at the little mechanical figure of Doctor Moffett explaining the register, which figure is in a certain room of the Executive Hotel.

The success of Rev. Mr. Rainford in Richmond has been entirely unprecedented. There are conflicting opinions as to his power as a preacher. Some people have been disappointed, but the majority are greatly impressed with him. Everybody has been delecting him except the members of the legislature. If young gentlemen go calling in the morning he is told by the servant, "young ladies ain't in sir," and when he asks where they are, he is told, "gone to hear Mr. Rainford." When the merchant, after a good night's rest, comes down to call breakfast in the morning, he finds his wife or daughter to pour out the coffee he knows where they are, and at night, when he comes to supper, he finds a single plate on the table and the inscription on a visiting card, "gone to hear Mr. Rainford; come for me at 10!"

Mr. Rainford, Dr. Hovey, Minnigerode and Rev. Mr. Jackson were at the Thursday concert to-day.

Rev. Dr. Reed regards Mr. Rainford as the greatest preacher since the days of Paul.

Mr. Barbour's tax bill will pass the House, but the question as to whether it will pass the Senate is a doubtful one. On the other hand, Mr. Brooke's four per cent bill passed the Senate to-day, but it cannot pass the House. So there is really some danger of the matter not being settled this session.

A young lady of this city, who was married a short time since, while having her wedding dress made had a baby's dress made along with it, and the whole charged to her father.

A number of Congressmen from Washington came down to-day to hear Miss Thursty sing. She received a great ovation here.

B. & O. R. R. and C. O. Canal.

Another matter which complicates the question of settlement of the claim of Maryland against the B. & O. R. R. Co. is the relations between the railroad and the C. & O. Canal. The last report of the Canal Company, recently printed, contains the following in regard to the matter:—"The great embarrassment under which we now labor is caused by our not having independent connections with the coal mines west of Cumberland. So great has been and is the discrimination against us that we are deprived of a large part of the trade which we could command if a proper rate was only charged on such coal as the owners desired to ship by canal."

"To some extent the Legislature of the State has reduced the charges in coal to the canal that passes over the Cumberland and Potomac Railroad, but we are practically debarred from receiving coal from the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Roads and from the Piedmont region."

"The increased prosperity of this company, if not the very existence of the work, depends upon securing for it by legislation permanent contract with the existing railroad lines such facilities as will unquestionably insure the delivery of all coal and other produce offered for shipment by the canal at the lowest rates charged to any other person or corporation."

The decision of the Court of Appeals in 1833 in the injunction case of the canal against the railroad gave the absolute ownership of the narrow passes of the Potomac river at Point of Rocks to the Canal Company, and had it not been for the clemency of the company, the road could never have been carried past that point.

The road is now in a position to be debarred from the canal, from its inability to discriminate against the canal, and the Canal Company, whose President is on the committee having the subject in charge, insists that as an essential portion of any settlement the canal must be put upon an equal footing with the railroad as regards the delivery of coal in Cumberland. It is argued that it would be folly and injustice on the part of the State to give up all its advantages, while the road retains and employs its advantages to oppress a work in which the State has made so enormous an investment.

Up to the present time there has been no adjustment of the conflicting interests, and the road appears to be as far off from a settlement as ever. The committee of the Maryland Legislature having the subject in charge had a consultation last night, but nothing was done. It is understood that the Canal Company will at once proceed to secure its objects by legislation brought forward without regard to the proceedings of the railroad.—*Balt. American.*

A CONGRESSMAN CORNERED.—Hon. John T. Harris was the only member of the Committee on the Judiciary who was not present on Tuesday when the committee took the test vote on the woman suffrage question, and Mrs. Isabella Hooker has been pursuing him, in the hope of persuading him to turn the scale in favor of the movement. Yesterday morning a correspondent Mr. Harris in the Metropolitan Hotel, when he agreed to give her a hearing, provided she would accept the guests as auditors. Mrs. Hooker was nothing loth, and, securing one of the parlors, the guests assembled, and, as was admitted, listened to a most eloquent and convincing address. But the obstinate heart of the Virginia Representative was not softened. While admiring the orator and the oratory, he was unconvinced.—*Wash. Rep.*

At a meeting of prominent members of the sugar trade, in New York, yesterday, a resolution was adopted that any increase upon the present average rates of duty upon sugar would be an unjust burden upon the public, the increased rate being felt to be a heavy burden, and would also give additional incentive to fraud.

From Washington.

[SPECIAL TO THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 7.

SENATE.

In the Senate, to-day, during the morning hour, the usual number of memorials in reference to the tariff, the liquor traffic, pensions, &c., were presented.

A memorial to repeal so much of the existing law as prohibits the establishment of banks in Washington Territory, was referred.

A memorial of citizens of Iowa in reference to the use of the Bible in the public schools, was referred.

A few bills of no general interest were introduced and referred.

A resolution looking to an increase of the clerical force in the Pension Bureau, was introduced by Mr. Edmunds, who advocated an increase.

Mr. Davis, of W. Va., thought the force in the Pension Office as large as had been asked for by the Adjutant General and the Surgeon General.

Mr. Edmunds said that the fact that there was not a sufficient